

Dewick's *Plusia Macdunnoughia confusa* Steph. (Lep.: Noctuidae) at Staines, Middlesex in 1999 and the autumnal occurrence of *Orthopygia glaucinalis* L. (Lep.: Pyralidae)

The occasional appearance of migrant moth species in my garden m.v. trap at Staines, Middlesex has led me to believe that Staines is not on any regular migrant flight path, except for human arrivals at nearby Heathrow Airport. It was, therefore, a surprise to find that the first moth I saw in the trap on the morning of 10 October 1999 was a perfect male Dewick's *Plusia Macdunnoughia confusa*. On reporting this find to Colin Plant, he informed me that it appeared to be the first record of this species from Middlesex (VC 21). Staines is also within the area covered by the London Natural History Society's surveys of moths, which extends some 32 kilometres from St Paul's Cathedral and include parts of West Kent, South and North Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey. *M. confusa* is not recorded from that area by Plant (1993, *Larger Moths of the London Area*) and Colin confirms that he has not subsequently received any records of this species from there.

The only other potential migrant species in the trap that morning was a very worn specimen of *Orthopygia glaucinalis* which normally occurs here from late June to early August. Goater (1986, *British Pyralid Moths*) remarks that *O. glaucinalis* may be an occasional migrant. On checking my records, I found that on four occasions in 1996 and 1997 I had also taken *O. glaucinalis* in the Staines m.v. trap in October. On three of these occasions it was with a primary migrant, on the night of 15 October 1996 with *Nomophila noctuella* D. & S. (Pyralidae), on 25 October 1996 with the Scarce Bordered Straw *Heliothis armigera* Hb. (Noctuidae) and on 25 October 1997 with the Pearly Underwing *Peridroma saucia* Hb. (Noctuidae). This may lend some support to the suggestion that *O. glaucinalis* is an occasional migrant and, interestingly, Colin Plant has informed me that he took a single male at m.v. light in Broxbourne Woods, Hertfordshire on the same date. On the other hand these may be examples of a second brood, an explanation given for specimens of *O. glaucinalis* taken by Ray Softly in Hampstead in October 1996 (*Ent. Rec.* **110**, 113).—JOHN MUGGLETON, 30 Penton Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 2LD.